

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 32833 271657Z

43

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE PRIORITY 5710

INFO IAEA VIENNA 2156

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AMEMASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E.O. 11652: N:A TAGS: TGEN, TECH

SUBJECT: URANIUM ENRICHMENT - US COOPERATION

REF: A. STATE 245013 B PARIS 30210 C. PARIS 31091

D. PARIS 32673 E. STATE 227510

SCI FOR SIEVERING

SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE TO AMERICAN BUSINESS MAN PAUL LOCHAK, SCIATT GAVE GENERAL EMBASSY VIEW THAT 1) WE FAVOR US COOPERATION WITH EURODIF IN CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN URANIUM ENRICHMENT, BUT 2) USG HAD ALREADY DEMONSTRATED ITS GOOD FAITH AND WILLINGNESS TO EXPLORE COOPERATION WITH EUROPEAN NATIONS AND 3) IT WAS NOWUP TO FRENCH AND THEIR EURODIF PARTNERS TO SHOW THEIR INTEREST. END SUMMARY.

1. SCIATT MET BRIEFLY WITH AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN PAUL LOCHAK

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PAGE 02 PARIS 32833 271657Z

DECEMBER 23 AT LOCHAK'S URGENT REQUEST. LOCHAK SAID THAT USAEC WAS PREPARED TO GRANT THREE-MONTH SUSPENSION OF ITS DEC 31 DEAD-LINE BUT THAT HE WAS UNSURE THE STATE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONCUR. HE DESCRIBED SUSPENSION AS TEST OF US GOODWILL TOWARD POSSIBLE COOPERATION WITH EURODIF. SCIATT SAID THAT US HAD ALREADY DEMONSTRATED ITS GOODWILL TOWARD INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION BY DECLARING ITS READINESS, FIRST, BY EAC MESSAGE TO OPEN (REF A PARA 2)

TO HOLD EXPLORATORY DISCUSSION ON SHORT NOTICE ON COOPERATION IN GASE
US

DIFFUSION, AND THEN, IN THE SECRETARY'S LONDON SPEECH OF DEC. 12, TO COOPERATE IN OVERALL FIELD OF ENERGY WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO ENRICHMENT. IT WAS THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WHICH HAS NOT REPLIED TO THE AEC CABLE OR TO SECRETARY'S ENERGY PROPOSALS. THE NEXT MOVE WAS UP TO THE FRENCH AND THEIR EURODIF PARTNERS.

2. SCIATT CONTINUED THAT, GIVEN THE OUSTER OF JEAN COUTURE IN LAST WEEK'S REORGANIZATION OF THE ENERGY SECRETARIAT, IT WAS DIFFICULT TO SEE WHO IN THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, ASIDE FROM EDF, WOULD TAKE THE LEAD IN PUSHING COOPERATION WITH U.S. EVEN EDF AS WELL AS OTHER EUROPEAN UTILITIES IN OPEN WERE PROBABLY UNHAPPY THAT THE AEC DID NOT GRANT THEM (REF A PARA 1). MINISTER CHARBONNEL APPEARED TO HAVE REVERSED THIS EARLIER POSITIVE POSITION WHEN ON DECEMBER 7 HE MADE LAST MINUTE CHANGE IN SPEECH STATE "EUROPEAN" INSTEAD OF "INTERNATIONAL" COOPERATION, AS OPPOSED TO USE OF "INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION" IN BOTH HIS NOVEMBER 23 ADDRESS TO ASSEMBLY AND THE PRIME MINISTER'S COMMUNIQUE APPROVING EURODIF (REF B AND C). FINALLY THE CEA, WHICH LOCHAK INSISTED OPPOSED COOPERATION, WOULD HAVE LAST TECHNICAL WORK IN ANY INTRA-GOVERNMENTAL DEBATE. LOCHAK REPLIED THAT THE FINANCE MINISTRY, CERTAIN TECHNICAL ADVISERS TO MESMER AND POMPIDOU, AND THE OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES IN EURODIF FAVORED US PARTICIPATION.

3. LOCHAK ASKED IF EMBASSY STILL SUPPORTED US COOPERATION WITH EURODIF. HE ADDED THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT UNDER SECRETARY CASEY WOULD TELEPHONE CHIEF OF MISSION DEC 26 TO POSE JUST THAT QUESTION. SCIATT OPINED THAT EMBASSY WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT COOPERATION, PARTICULARLY IN BROAD CONTEXT OUTLINED IN SECRETARY'S SPEECH. IT SEEMED OBVIOUS THAT URANIUM ENRICHMENT POSED PROBLEMS WHOSE MOST EFFECTIVE SOLUTION WAS THROUGH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 PARIS 32833 271657Z

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

4. LOCHAK ADDED THAT HRUSOV'S EURODIF MEETING (REF D) BROKE UP INCONCLUSIVELY. HE SAID THE FRANCE'S EURODIF PARTNERS DELIBERATELY STALLED PROGRESS TO LEAVE OPEN POSSIBILITY FOR US COOPERATION. THE ITALIANS INSISTED ON A PLANT SITE IN ITALY, EVEN OFFERING A HUGE GOVERNMENTAL SUBSIDY FOR CONSTRUCTION. (LE MONDE REPORTED THAT EURODIF MEETING COULD NOT DECIDE BETWEEN

TARQUINA, ITALY, AND TRICASTIN, FRANCE, AS SITE).

5. COMMENT: SINCE ORIGINAL AEC MESSAGE TO WYART, (REF. 3) WHICH MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF POSTPONEMENT OF ITS DEC 31 DEADLINE, LOCHAK'S CONTACTS WITH EMBASSY HAVE BEEN AT LOW-LEVEL EXCEPT WHEN HE BROUGHT WYART TO SEE MINECON. OUR GENERAL LINE HAS BEEN THAT WITHIN OUR PURVIEW EMBASSY FAVORED US COOPERATIN WITH EUROPEANS IN ENRICHMENT, EURODIF INCLUDED. STONE

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